

United Food & Commercial Workers Union

James Araby, Executive Director · Mickey Kasparian, President · Kirk Vogt, Secretary-Treasurer · Rick Eiden, Recorder

8530 Stanton Avenue, Suite 2A · P.O. Box 5158 · Buena Park, California 90620 (714) 670-5580 405 14th Street, Suite 605 · Oakland, California 94612 (510) 891-1058 www.ufcwwest.org

Hon. Reggie Jones-Sawyer Hon. Mark Stone Assembly Select Committee on the Office of Attorney General State Capitol

Dear Assembly Members Jones-Sawyer and Stone;

UFCW Western States Council strongly supports the nomination and confirmation of U.S. Representative Xavier Becerra as our next Attorney General for the state of California.

First and foremost we congratulate Governor Brown on this inspired selection to succeed Senator Kamala Harris. Congressman Becerra is an accomplished lawyer and elected legislator. His achievements in all of his previous endeavors, including over 20 years in Congress, demonstrate that he will be excellent Attorney General and statewide leader. California's Attorney General has numerous critical responsibilities, including defending the laws of the state and defending the rights of all residents.

First elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1992, Representative Becerra serves as Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, is a member of the powerful Committee on Ways and Means and is ranking member of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security. Prior to his election to Congress, Rep. Becerra served one term in the California Legislature representing the 59th Assembly District of Los Angeles County. He is former Deputy Attorney General with the California Department of Justice. Congressman Becerra began his legal career in 1984 working on a legal services office representing the mentally ill.

Throughout his career, Representative Becerra has been a champion of social justice, fairness and opportunity, especially for communities who've been left behind, displaced or without a voice to make their case. His relentless dogmatic approach to complex issues affecting the real lives of people have earned him a reputation to speak truth to justice, especially on LGBTQ, environmental, labor and immigration rights.

In 1996, he voted against the Defense of Marriage Act, during the Bush years he voted against all of his proposed tax cuts and has strongly advocated for enforcing limits on global warming polluters.

His progressive views and deliberative debate catapulted him to be one of the most influential Members of the Minority Leader's Team, successfully pushing back needless budget cuts in the Affordable Care Act during its implementation.

Moreover, Rep. Becerra is an exceptional person of character who has the utmost respect of the legislative process but will also recognize the importance of judicial leadership to advance the ideals of fairness and equity as top lawyer for the State of California.

Once again, UFCW Western States Council recommends a "YES" vote for confirmation.

For more information and coordination, please contact Sam Rodriguez, Director of Legislative Affairs, at 916-849-4300, 916-612-7625 and/or samrodriguez@ufcwstatescouncil.org

Respectfully,

Jim Araby

Executive Director

UFCW Western States Council

Jacques Loveall, President UFCW 8 – Golden State

Mickey Kaparian, President

UFCW Local 135

Greg M. Conger, President

Dan Larson

Greg Conga

UFCW Local 324

Dan Larson, President

UFCW Local 648

Ricardo F. Icaza, President UFCW Local 770

Mark Ramos, President UFCW Local 1428

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Rick Bruer, President UFCW Local 1167

Michael Straeter, President UFCW Local 1442

Michael Straeter

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CC: Members, of the Assembly Committee on the Office of Attorney General